



Approved For Release 2008/01/02 : CIA-RDP83B00140R000200030028-1

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

11 AUG 1980

C-1109/DE

MEMORANDUM FOR THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, NATIONAL FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Dissenting Positions in National Intelligence Estimates and Memorandums

1. [] The proposed DCI memorandum on dissenting positions in national intelligence products appears to be an excellent initiative. DIA and the Services strongly support the view, set forth in the draft DCI memorandum, that divergent views and alternate assessments are important and should be encouraged and clearly expressed. Set forth below are some proposed changes which are designed to further those objectives.
2. [] The fast pace of the late stages of development of an estimate suggests that long and detailed written explanations of the reasons for dissents are impracticable. Further, the administrative burden of preparing such explanations might discourage dissent. Accordingly, I recommend that the proposed alternate language be provided, followed by a discussion -- ordinarily brief -- of the supporting reason or reasons. I also believe that NIOs should keep the DCI well informed of dissenting views as they emerge in discussions during the earlier stages of the estimate's development. These measures should achieve the desired results and also reduce the likelihood of stretching out the final coordination process.
3. [] To alleviate further the "stretching out" problem discussed in paragraph 2 above and still allow sufficient time for all the principals to become fully cognizant of the issues involved, I suggest that the DCI may wish that the NFIB address contentious or lengthy estimates on a piecemeal basis. For instance, the NFIB could consider the individual chapters of 11-3/8 as soon as the NIO/SP judges them complete. An alternative approach would be to schedule two or more NFIB sessions over a period of a week or two to consider specific portions of an estimate.
4. [] I must add a comment on the NIOs editing done on past dissents. On occasion, NFIB principals, including myself, prepare their personal positions in wording carefully calculated to convey precise nuances. Well intentioned grammatical/stylistic changes can alter the meaning and thrust of these positions. It is important that NIOs do not alter specific statements by NFIB principals without the direct concurrence of the principal.
5. [] With these concerns, I enclose a proposed rewrite of the draft memorandum for DCI consideration. Corporately, DIA and the Services believe it sets forth the essential points in a manner applicable to all national estimative products.

DIA review completed.

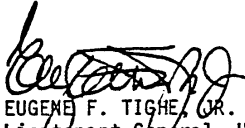
Classified by DIK/FE
Declassify on NOG 5

CONFIDENTIAL

Approved For Release 2008/01/02 : CIA-RDP83B00140R000200030028-1

6. ☐ These comments, and the proposed rewrite, attached, represent the views of the Service Intelligence Chiefs as well as my own.

1 Enclosure
Proposed DCI Memorandum ☐
1 cy


EUGENE F. TIGHE, JR.
Lieutenant General, USAF
Director

25X1

25X1